

SUBMISSION DATE: 2/23/2022

HEARING DATE: 2/25/2022

BILL: HB0831

SPONSOR: Delegates [Stein](#) and [Barve](#)

TITLE: **Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Commercial and Residential Buildings**

POSITION: Favorable

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation Committee

Point 1. Burning Natural Gas Creates Significant Greenhouse Gases

- Home in Village of Cross Keys burned 1,026 therms of natural gas which produced 5.4 metric tons of greenhouse gas. The greenhouse gas floats in the stratosphere for 100 years.
- Installation of heat pump, powered by 100% renewable, would produce no greenhouse gas. See Attachment A: Presentation to the American Society for Quality (ASQ) Baltimore (p. 8).

Point 2. Heat Pumps will Save Consumers Money

- Heat pumps, which can both heat and cool your home, do a better job of keeping your home at a constant, comfy temperature than an oil or natural gas furnace, while using only 30% of the energy to do so.
- They can save you money since they use less energy, which makes them cheaper to run over their 10-25 year lifetimes.

See Attachment B: *Electrify Everything in your Home: A Guide to Comfy, Healthy, Carbon-Free Living* by Joel Rosenberg (p. 3).

Point 3. Natural Gas is More Vulnerable to Market Fluctuations

- On average, households that heat with natural gas will likely pay \$161 more this winter than last.
- For households with electric heat pumps, energy bills are only expected to rise by only \$21 more than last year.
- In every region of the country, the expected increase for natural gas households is greater than that of electric heat pump households.

See Attachment C: *Energy Bill Security for American Households through Electrification* by Sam Calisch, Rachael Grace, Gabe Daly, Ari Matusiak of Rewiring America, Dec 2021 (p. 3)

For these reasons and more, I urge a FAVORABLE REPORT on HB0831 Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Commercial and Residential Buildings

Respectfully submitted,

David Saunders CC-P*

410-456-8542 cell, davidsaunders107@gmail.com

*Climate Change Professional (CC-P), Certified by the Association of Climate Change Officers and the State of Maryland